

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

VOLUME XX

ASHLAND, O., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1898

No. 36

## Editorial

### Our Motto for 1899

Our motto for the next year is, "The EVANGELIST in every home in the Brethren church," and to accomplish this end we invite the co-operation of every member of the church. The paper will be improved, and we are prepared to promise our readers a better paper than we have ever had. Our arrangements for regular contributions and church news justify this promise. Let the work begin at once and may there be no relaxation of effort until every member of the Brethren church will be a reader of the EVANGELIST.

### Look at Your Label

Please examine the label on your paper. We have now reached number 36 of 1898, and beginning with January 1, to date some four hundred subscriptions have expired. Kindly renew at once and save us the trouble and expense of sending notices of expiration. This we will do later to those who do not renew or ask us to discontinue, but for the present will you not let the label on your paper be a sufficient notice? Do one of three things: (1) Send us \$1.50 for one year's renewal, or (2) If you do not have the money order the paper continued and we will extend your time one year, or (3) If you do not wish the paper any longer order it discontinued. We do not want to drop your name from our list; the list is too small as it is, we want it enlarged rather than decreased, and to this end ask the renewal of your own paper and an effort on your part to secure at least one new subscriber.

### Misplaced Enmity

Homely people waste no love on mirrors; and perhaps for a parallel reason some people dislike the Bible. It shows them their defects and deformities and earns their dislike. Wisdom would say, look the oftener, study your defects and endeavor to remove them; but folly criticises the faithful glass as if it were responsible for the hideous face before it.

### How Much

The question of what we believe may be varied by how much, how intensely do we believe. For example, do we believe God's promises with sufficient intensity to make them practical, real, resultful to us? When we read, "Ask and ye shall receive," do we apply that promise to the salvation of our

children, our neighbors, to the prosperity of the church, to the defeat of organized evil, the pulling down of the saloon; do we get from it victory in our spiritual conflicts, comfort in our sorrows, strength in our trials, joy and power for service, wisdom for counsel? If there is here a treasure house of spiritual wealth, and faith is the key which unlocks the door, why do we stand shivering and hesitating and poverty stricken without?

### Try It

If we habitually draw nigh to God when we are comfortable, when everything is coming our way, when the sun shines on our prosperity, when we are well fed, well clothed and well solaced in the smile of the world, we will be more readily found of Him when trouble comes, and storm and stress and darkness beset us. If we act as if we had no need of the Lord in prosperity, he will let us see how we can get along without him in adversity.

### What We Would Like to Know

We are preparing a church directory for publication in the EVANGELIST, and also gathering matter for the Brethren Annual for 1899. In general there are many things we would like to know, but a few things we *must* know to make the directory complete. Will the readers of this paper who are in a position to do so, help us in obtaining the following information: 1. The names of the members of the Board of Superannuated Ministers. 2. The names of the members of the Board of Old Folks and Orphan's Home. 3. The names of the president and secretary of each district conference. 4. The names of the members of each district mission Board with the officers designated. 5. The names of the officers of each state organization of the S. S. C. E. If the presidents of the several boards and other organizations herein mentioned will send us the desired information it will be greatly appreciated.

### Underdone

The editorial article entitled "Overdone," was decidedly underdone by the compositor, who made us say that Scriptural teaching brought into disrepute the whole subject of future punishment and fostered a profound unbelief of it. The "copy" said that this effect was produced by the extravagances of those preachers who abandoned scriptural teaching upon the subject, and drew instead upon their own heated imaginations. Whatever you preach about, stick to the Bible,

and give an honest interpretation of its language, getting as near as possible to the meaning of its writers. Here is the great advantage of those who are not hampered by a written creed. They are only bound to set forth the truth, and not what some one else says is the truth. There is a world of difference here. It is good neither to overdo nor underdo a thing, which remark applies to preachers, compositors and all other folk. Let your moderation, and we would add let your accuracy, be known to all men.

### Clean Up

In view of the fatal fevers invading our military camps, much has been said concerning the importance of proper sanitation. Typhoid fever, and doubtless all other forms of fever, are filth diseases, originating in unclean sewers and contaminated water. Many a family has laid at the door of Providence a calamity which came from a dirty back yard, a polluted well, a stagnant pool of reeking stumps, or some other disease breeder, which a few hours' intelligent work would have corrected or removed. Perhaps a diseased spiritual life proceeds from similar causes. There is an unclean spot somewhere in the daily life. There is a dirty back yard in that man's character, or in his habits. Clean up. Throw in some quick-lime of hearty repentance. Be a reformer and begin at home. It has been said that cleanliness is next to godliness, but we say unto you that moral and spiritual cleanliness is godliness.

### Ministerial List for 1899

Does your name appear correctly in the Brethren Annual for 1898? Does it appear at all? If not, kindly inform us, and give us the name and address plainly written just as you want it to appear in the Annual. This is a matter of importance. The Indiana Conference will furnish a corrected list for that State. Take the Annual of 1898 and see if your name is at its proper place. There will be four week's time to make the corrections.

### Financial Report of National Mission Board

The financial report of the National Mission Board for the month of August appears in this issue. The report is fairly good but it would be more encouraging if the amount were twice as large. We are aware that many of our people pay direct to the district mission boards for home work in their respective districts. This is well and should be encouraged, but contributions to the Nat-